

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SCCT-02 NIC-01 A-01 OPR-02 SY-04 EB-11 CAB-09

FAA-00 DOTE-00 FBIE-00 USSS-00 DRC-01 /126 W
----- 110231

P R 101756Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7923

INFO COMNAVBASE GTMO BAY CUBA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT AU PRINCE 0855

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, HA

SUBJECT: EXPLOSION AT PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS WAREHOUSE,
PORT AU PRINCE AIRPORT

REF: P-AU-P 0850

1. FOREIGN MINISTER BRUTUS, ACCOMPANIED BY INTERIOR MINISTER BLANCHET, POLICE CHIEF COL. DUPERVAL, AND MAJOR ST. LOUIS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL GUARD, SET FORTH RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION EXPLOSION AT PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS WAREHOUSE AND, AS EXPECTED, PRESENTED FORMAL GOH REQUEST FOR FBI ASSISTANCE IN DETERMINING CULPRIT WHO DISPATCHED THESE TWO EXPLOSIVE DEVICES.

2. BRUTUS OBSERVED THAT BUT FOR SHEER LUCK, EXPLOSION COULD HAVE OCCURRED WHILE PAN AM AIRCRAFT WAS STILL IN FLIGHT, RESULTING IN LOSS OF AIRCRAFT AND DEATH OF PILOTS.

3. BLANCHET AND ST. LOUIS POINTED OUT APPARENT DEFICIENCY IN PAN AM PROCEDURES THAT PERMITTED PACKAGES TO BE RECEIVED WITHOUT VERIFYING IDENTITY OF SENDER OR WITHOUT SUBJECTING CONTENTS OF PACKAGE TO SECURITY SCREENING.

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4. BRUTUS, IN ADDITION TO REQUESTING FBI COOPERATION WITH PAN AM SECURITY OFFICIALS INVESTIGATING EXPLOSION, REQUESTED USG SUPPORT FOR ASSURING THAT APPROPRIATE IDENTIFICATION AND SCREENING PROCEDURES WOULD BE INTRODUCED AFFECTING PACKAGES DESTINED FOR HAITI TO BE CARRIED BY EITHER PAN AM OR OTHER AMERICAN AIRLINES.

5. I ASSURED THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT USG WOULD COOPERATE FULLY IN THIS INVESTIGATION AND WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO PREVENT SIMILAR INCIDENTS FROM OCCURRING. I TOLD HIM I WOULD REPORT ANY RESULTS IMMEDIATELY.

6. RECOMMENDATION: GIVEN THE CONTINUED HOSTILITY OF CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF THE HAITIAN EXILE COMMUNITY TO THE PRESENT GOVT, THE PREVALENCE OF VIOLENCE DIRECTED AT U.S. AIRCRAFT AND U.S. PERSONNEL, AND THE PUBLICITY VALUE THAT HAITIAN EXILES EVIDENTLY SEE IN DRAMATIC, VIOLENT ATTEMPTS OF THIS KIND, I RECOMMEND THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO MEET THIS GOH REQUEST WHICH COINCIDES WITH USG INTERESTS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPT IS REQUESTED TO MAKE APPROPRIATE REQUEST TO FBI FOR IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE TO PAN AM SECURITY OFFICIALS INVESTIGATING THIS EXPLOSION. ASSISTANCE OF DEPT'S ANTI-TERRORIST COMMITTEE REQUESTED IN DEVELOPING PROCEDURES FOR SCREENING PACKAGES DESTINED FOR HAITI BY COMMERCIAL AIR CARRIERS.
ISHAM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR SAFETY, EXPLOSIVES, AIRPORTS, EXPLOSIONS, BUILDING DAMAGE, SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS, AIRLINES
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Draft Date: 10 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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